

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-13 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12
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O R 011712Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2669
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMCONSUL BELIZE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 01748

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, UK, GT, BH, ME
SUBJECT: BELIZE: LABOR PARTY RESOLUTION

REF: (A) STATE 25966; (B) 77 STATE 273093

1. THE EMBASSY APPRECIATES THE DELICATE NATURE OF THE CURRENT STATE OF NEGOTIATIONS, BUT NOTES THAT REF A FAILS TO PROVIDE ANY GUIDANCE FOR RESPONDING TO THAT PORTION OF THE RESOLUTION WHICH IS OF OPERATIVE SIGNIFICANCE TO THE USG, THE QUESTION OF ARMS AND TRAINING FOR GUATEMALA. WE PLAN A WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THE LABOR PARTY'S WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS WHICH, WHILE PRO FORMA, DRAWS ON THE DEPARTMENT'S EARLIER GUIDANCE CONCERNING U.S. ABSTENTION ON THE VARIOUS BELIZE RESOLUTION (REF B).

2. THE PROPOSED TEXT OF OUR REPLY FOLLOWS: QUOTE -
DEAR MR. HAYWARD (GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE PARTY):
THANK YOU FOR FORWARDING THE TEXT OF THE NATIONAL
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S JANUARY 25 RESOLUTION ON BELIZE
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AND INVITING MY COMMENTS THEREON.

REGARDING THE QUESTION OF THE SUPPLY OF ARMS AND TRAINING FACILITIES TO GUATEMALA... (TO BE PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT). I CAN ALSO ASSURE YOU THAT WE FULLY SUPPORT HMG'S AIM OF CONTINUING ITS SEARCH FOR A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT TO THE BELIZE PROBLEM WHICH WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO ALL OF THE PARTIES CONCERNED. AS YOU

ARE NO DOUBT AWARE, THE UNITED STATES HAS ABSTAINED ON
THE VARIOUS BELIZE RESOLUTIONS AT THE UNITED NATIONS,
AS WE HAVE WISHED TO AVOID ANY ACTION WHICH MIGHT
INTERFERE WITH THESE ON-GOING NEGOTIATIONS.

BEST REGARDS. UNQUOTE

3. THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT BE AWARE THAT PRIME MINISTER
CALLAGHAN, A MEMBER OF THE NEC, ATTENDED THE MEETING
AT WHICH THE RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED WITHOUT DISSENT.
WE BELIEVE, ACCORDINGLY, THAT AS A MATTER OF COURTESY
WE MUST RESPOND TO THE POINTS RAISED WHICH ARE OF DIREC
CONCERN TO THE USG AND THAT THE PROPOSED TEXT, WHEN
SUPPLEMENTED BY A STATEMENT ON THE ARMS/TRAINING
FACILITIES ISSUE, REPRESENTS THE MINIMUM WE CAN SAY
AND STILL APPEAR RESPONSIVE. ONCE WE HAVE AN APPROVED
TEXT, WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO CLEAR IT WITH THE FCO BEFORE
PASSING IT ON TO THE LABOR PARTY, SHOULD THE DEPARTMENT
SO DESIRE. WE ALSO NOTE THAT IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY
THAT THE TEXT (OR EVEN THE THRUST) OF OUR REPLY WILL
BE MADE PUBLIC, BUT IF THE DEPARTMENT WISHES, WE WOULD
BE HAPPY TO ASK THE LABOR PARTY INFORMALLY NOT TO
RELEASE IT TO THE PRESS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: PROVIDE THE NECESSARY GUIDANCE
TO RESPOND TO THE ARMS/TRAINING FACILITIES PORTION OF
THE LABOR PARTY RESOLUTION.
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BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

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